

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 10994

EXDIS

FOR SHELDON VANCE (S/NM) AND PETER BENSINGER (DEA)

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR/MEX
SUBJECT: DIRECT DEA WASHINGTON CONTACT WITH MEXICAN ATTORNEY

1. ALEJANDRO GERTZ OF MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REQUESTED DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR FRIAS AND NARCOTICS COORDINATOR MCLAUGHLIN TO MEET WITH HIM AUGUST 26. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, GERTZ SAID THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA IS DISTURBED THAT PERSONNEL FROM DEA HEADQUARTERS(GERTZ SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED HUMBERTO MORENO) FREQUENTLY CALL THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF DIRECTLY FROM WASHINGTON. GERTZ WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO STATE THAT THIS CAN CAUSE UNNECESSARY CONFUSION AND DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. ACCORDING TO GERTZ, OJEDA PAULLADA BELIEVES THAT THE DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN MEXICO CITY (OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, HIS DESIGNATED SUBSTITUTE) SHOULD BE THE ONLY CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN HIS OFFICE AND DEA HEADQUARTERS.

2. I WHOLE-HEARTEDLY SUPPORT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S POSITION AND WAS DISTURBED TO LEARN THAT SUCH DIRECT COMMUNICATION HAS BECOME VOLUMINOUS ENOUGH TO CAUSE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO HAVE THIS MATTER DISCUSSED WITH US. I HOPE THIS WILL NOT CONTINUE AND THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS, WHETHER ON POLICY, OPERATIONS, OR JANUS PROSECUTIONS, WILL BE ROUTED THROUGH THIS EMBASSY.

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